THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Interview of Criminals in Jails by Journalists

807. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that criminals in Jails are being allowed to be interviewed by Journalists:

(b) whether this does not amount to romanticising crime; and

(c) what is Government's policy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) 'Prisons' being a State subject as per Entry 4 of List Il-State List-of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, it is for the State Governments to regulate matters related to prisons and convicts.

Persons under Security Categories

808. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn in the Press reports regarding Z and Z-Plus category of security which appeared in the Asian Age, dated the 8th May, 1998; and

(b) whether Government would release the list of those in lesser categories of security?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Yes Sir,

(b) On considerations of security of the protected persons the list of protectees and the level of protection provided to them is not released.

TADA Detenus

809. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons detained under TADA in different States till the end of April, 1998;

(b) whether Government propose to review each case and if so, whether any special agency has been set up in this regard; and

(c) the time schedule within which this exercise is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Information is being collected from the State/UTs and will be laid on the table of the House.

(b) and (c) Pending TADA cases are being regularly reviewed by the State Review Committees in the States and the Central Review Committee as per the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. However, most of these cases are presently pending in the Designated TADA Courts.

Insurgency in Tripura

810. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the concrete steps taken by Government to curb the escalating insurgency in Tripura which has resulted in the death of many innocent people?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): The steps taken to curb insurgency in Tripura include, interalia, deployment of additional units of Central Para Military Forces and the Army, improved coordination and sharing of intelligence, modernisation/upgradation of State Police Fores, declaration of the most seriously affected areas as disturbed areas and notification of the major insurgent groups as unlawful associations. The situation is also kept under watch and is reviewed from time to time.

Parallel Goverment by Exteremists in Nagaland

811. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to State:

(a) whether even after the extension of the cease-fire agreement with the ultra group in Nagaland the extremists are running a parallel Government in that State;

(b) Whether the so called Government of the people's Republic of Nagaland recently issued orders to all the people of Dimapur to pay compulsory annual tax; and